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OR

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For the Evening Fire-side.

ON CRUELTY.

History informs us, that cruelty to animals was more than censured in Greece.—The Court of Areopagus expelled one of its members, for inhumanly denying shelter in his bosom to a sparrow that sought an asylum there, from the talons of its pursuer. We may remark, that this Company, which was at that time one of the gravest in the world, did it not for the care they had to make a law concerning sparrows; but it was to show that clemency and a merciful disposition were so necessary in a state, that a man destitute thereof was not worthy to hold any place in the government; he having, as it were, renounced humanity. But although their proceedings in this instance, were honourable to themselves; it may justly be doubted, whether all the punishments which can ever be devised, will be found sufficient to eradicate a propensity to cruelty. A more complete remedy, and, perhaps the only one that will be found to have much effect, will be to impress the impropriety thereof upon the mind in early childhood.

It will not be necessary to recur to particular arguments on this subject; for the greatest of all arguments, hath its seat in the human breast; was there implanted by the hand of nature for the most benevolent of purposes, and needs not the pomp of words to explain it. The tender cries of those, who are suffering under the influence of pain, are eloquent dissuasives from cruelty; and they scarcely deserve the name of men, who are insensible to their influence. The exercise of virtue can alone confer superiority, and whenever that is renounced, man becomes a brute, though he still retains the human form.

Cruelty is unjust: for when our beneficent Creator formed the various tribes of animals, he endued them, in common, with ourselves, with a capacity for enjoyment and the means of obtaining it; and although upon comparison, their enjoyments may be found to fall infinitely short of our own, yet, nevertheless, they are perfect in their kind. They are joint tenants with us of this capacious globe, and alike entitled to those productions thereof, which are necessary for their existence and comfort.

Cruelty is mean, and the produce of a narrow mind; whenever we struggle with an enemy, that is apparently our equal or superior, that struggle or resistance bears the name of courage, and springs from one of the noblest of sources; but whenever a like disposition is exercised towards the beings that are placed below us in the scale of creation, it becomes a sign of a mean and cowardly spirit: it is exercising a contemptible tyranny over an inferior, the very reverse of greatness, and argues a weakness unbecoming a man.

Cruelty is also an atrocious crime: and even perhaps it may be said to be the basis of all crimes. "The breast that is untinctured with cruelty," says an elegant author, "is prepared for every virtue; and the heart that cherishes it, is a seat for every vice. There is no violation greater, because there is no injury that is not reducible to it: to inflict pain is consequently to thwart the business of life, and to defeat the end of existence."

There is no time so suitable to effectually combat this propensity as early life: it is in this period, that the mind is the most pure, and therefore the most likely to cherish the impressions of humanity, which may often then be so indelibly engraved, as to continue to be adhered to throughout life, and will not be very easily eradicated.

On this view of the subject, how much depends upon those who have the government of children, may be easily conceived: they should endeavour to sow the first seeds of compassion; but it is not enough simply to sow the seed, it must be watched, cultivated and defended from the weeds which may endanger its growth: it should be explained to them, that to take pleasure in that by which pain is inflicted, is at least dangerous, if not vicious. Much good or evil depends upon the engrafting, or the neglecting to engraft, this sentiment, upon the plastic mind: but, let it not be supposed sufficient barely to inculcate it by words, it must be invigorated and strengthened by example; till, from a daily habit, it becomes a principle, pervading and governing all their actions.

I shall conclude this subject with a passage from a late writer, who "united the Poet and the Moralist, the brightest genius to the purest benevolence in his writings and in his life; the pious Cowper."

"Ye, therefore, who love mercy, teach your sons
To love it too! the spring time of our years
Too soon dishonor'd and defil'd, in most,
By budding ills, that ask a prudent hand
To check them! But alas! none sooner shoots,
If unrestrain'd, into luxuriant growth,
Than *Cruelty*, most devilish of them all."

For the Evening Fire-side.

ON THE DEATH OF S—— K——.

Who died of the Yellow Fever in the fall of 1805.

Low laid in his grave is the hapless young ranger,
Remote from the land where his forefathers lie,
His pillow was smooth'd by the hand of a stranger,
To those that he knew not, was breath'd his last sigh.

Even fearful to thought is the sad parting hour,
When death mildly beckons the ling'rer away;
When surrounded by friends, who exert every power
To fan life's dull flame and prolong the delay.

But to this youthful suff'rer th' endearments were wanting
Of friendship, to languishing nature so sweet;
With the fever's quick breathings his bosom was panting,
But his wild rolling eyes no companion could meet.

In the house of his father, the meanest dependent,
When sick, could the soothings of tenderness share,
But to him was allotted a hireling attendant.
Ah! why did he stray from his father's so far?

I saw the lone hearse thro' the street moving slowly,
Its rumbling sound still vibrates in my ear!
'Mid the dark shades of night, where resides melancholy,
He was borne to the tomb, but no mourner was there.

How short are the pleasures of earth! how uncertain!
Who doats on the prospect, alas, how unwise!
It gleams for a moment, ere fate draws the curtain;
Man grasps at the phantom, and grasping he dies!

Adverse was his fate from the view of the morning,
When the sun was all brightness and fostering the gale;
When, the blushes of health his young cheeks adorning,
In gladness he gamboll'd o'er hill and o'er dale.

In the land where the Genessee, gayly meand'ring,
Gives grace to the landscape—makes fertile the soil;
The woodlands and plains were the scenes of his wand'ring,
When invited to pleasure, or urged to toil.

A happy young rustic, no cares then beset him,
Nor folly, nor vice spread entanglements there—
In the dark-bosom'd forest, no pestilence met him,
For free was the current, and pure was the air.

Ah! why, from the sheltering roof of his father,
Did the voice of ambition induce him to stray;
In the croud of the city those laurels to gather,
Which soon, ah, how quickly! were doom'd to decay!

For, while on the banks of enjoyment reposing,
And dreaming of pleasures and honors to come,
Around him the dark-moving pestilence closing,
Seiz'd her victim, and bore him away to the tomb

The gay sons of mirth whom he often delighted,
Who laugh'd at his joke and applauded his song,
Fled away from the scene of destruction, affrighted
At the grim-visaged monster that bore him along.

But the wretched, Humanity never neglected,
To smooth the rough passage she tenderly strove;
With the voice of an angel, Religion directed
His view to the mansions of infinite love.

MARIAN.

For the Evening Fire-side.

Whoever applies himself to the study of Philosophy, will quickly be convinced of the necessity of abstract, or general terms. He will also soon discover the expediency of distinct conception; and determinate definitions to the words he uses, as the signs of such conceptions. For unless he is attentive to affix definite meaning to his words, he will soon become bewildered, and lost in a labyrinth of confusion. Such precaution has always been enforced by those who have indulged in Philosophical Inquiries: and indeed, the vast importance of it is so plainly discernible, as not to be easily overlooked. It is true, there are some of the sciences so intimately united, as to render it a very difficult matter to discriminate the proper division. For example, the science of Ethics, which I define the duties of life in relation to one another. These duties are evidently not inherent or natural, because there is not an universal concord about them. Nations do not agree in their principles of Morality, therefore the Science of Ethics, comes measureably under Moral Philosophy; and yet as intellect is within Natural Philosophy, Ethics is of consequence, connected with it, because it is by the exercise of the intellectual faculties, we form our ideas of Moral Duties. There is another Science sometimes classed under the head of Moral Philosophy, similarly circumstanced; it is Logic. Now Logic as a Science, is defined as teaching the proper use of Reason; of course, volition is included. And yet, nevertheless, it is obviously conjoined with the Philosophy of Nature. Inasmuch as the materials, upon which it exerts itself are all derived from Nature.

There are a few of the Sciences thus connected, which cannot properly be classed under either head, but stand as connectives of the two, and serve to conduct the Philosophic Inquirer from one study to the other. For, would not a sagacious and nice inquirer, naturally pass over from one to the other. He who sets himself about to inquire into the operation of the mind in its pursuit of knowledge, must of course be conducted to the consideration of the reception of ideas; and as certainly as this finds admittance into his mind, he is within the province of Natural Philosophy.

In the 42d Number of the Literary Miscellany, I find an essay on the Comparative Excellence of the Sciences and Arts; wherein the whole mass of human knowledge, is headed with the term Natural Philosophy. Now, as I am altogether ignorant of the character of the author, not knowing but his superior penetration may have enabled him distinctly to perceive the propriety of such arraignment, I shall simply give my sentiment; and without much enforcing the propriety of it, leave it to the consideration of my readers. I conceive Human Science is naturally divided into three parts, which are essentially and manifestly different. These are Natural and Moral Philosophy, and Theology. Under the term Natural Philosophy, I include the works of Nature; as, Astronomy, Geography, Natural History, and every part of nature which has no connection with the ordering of our will. By Moral Philosophy, on the contrary, I mean, whatever is the performance of man, as the Science of Jurisprudence, Mathematics, Rhetoric, Grammar, &c. These sciences being evidently an invention, or performance of man, altogether independent of nature, except the uniting link of intellect; cannot, I think, be properly ranked under Natural Philosophy. The meaning of the word Philosophy, I accept, as knowledge. This I think is the idea generally received by the word; and can it be said, the knowledge acquired by the study of the Sciences, I have enumerated, is the knowledge of Nature? Nay, I think it cannot.

There is yet a farther division; Natural Philosophy, I divide into Physical and Metaphysical; and as there are but two substances in the world, viz. Matter and Mind, or Body and Spirit, so under Physics, I arrange all Material substances, or bodies; and assign Immeteriality, Mind, or Spirit, to the province of Metaphysics.

Theology, the third division, the Science which professes to teach the knowledge of Almighty God, and assumes to its direction the most important concern of existence—Religion; inasmuch as it is not derived from nature, but received through the medium of Divine Revelation, cannot with propriety be classed under either Natural or Moral Philosophy. I very well know every part of creation bears the image of an All-wise, and powerful God. Particularly those parts, within the sphere of Astronomy, where ten thousand worlds swiftly revolving, without any jar or confusion; strikes with conviction, and forcibly declares the wisdom, power, and superintendency of the Supreme Being. And I perfectly agree with Addison,

"That an undevout Astronomer is mad;"

Yet nevertheless, as is abundantly exemplified in the Scriptures, Divine Revelation is the only channel by which we can obtain, the true knowledge of our Creator. Of course, Theology is no part of Natural Philosophy. To enter any farther into argument about it, will carry me too far from the subject which I have espoused, which is to shew the necessity of distinct conception, in Philosophical disquisition; and that this cannot be effected without definite, and clear comprehension of the meaning of our words, or the ideas we intend to convey by them.

If mankind had not power to act by the direction of the will, but were governed in their actions by their Creator, then there would be a propriety in placing finite performances within Natural Philosophy; be-

cauſe, the whole then would be the work of the Deity: but as he has conferred on man a power to act of himſelf, agreeable to the impulſe of his will, ſuch performances as are hereby accompliſhed are not natural; and therefore, Natural Philoſophy is a very imperfect term for univerſal knowledge.

DRACO.

For the Evening Fire-side.

WINTER.

Hark! winter from the frozen north,
On hoarse resounding wings;
With all her terrors issuing forth,
A hoary mantle flings.

The tempest howls, o'er all the plain,
Amid the forest roars;
Then swiftly leads its furious train,
Along the des'late shores;

Tears the few leafy honours spar'd,
From Autumn's withering reign,
And madly strews them far and wide,
O'er the surrounding plain.

Since Summer suns no longer smile,
Nor temperate seasons glow,
The blazing hearth with fuel pile,
Each generous good bestow;

The pleasing volume hither bring;
The social freindly powers;
These can a smiling radiance fling
O'er all the tedious hours.

Come, Cheerfulness with roses crown'd,
Thy jocund charms diffuse;
And thou, sweet Health on all around,
Shed thy ambrosial dews.

S.

Selected for the Evening Fire-side.

THE IRISH GIANT.

Mr. Patrick O'Brien, uſually denominated the Iriſh Giant, died at his lodgings upon the Hotwell road, Briſtol, on the 1ſt of September, having fallen a ſacrifice to a diſeaſe of the lungs, combined with an affection of the liver, in the 46th year of his age. His real name was Patrick Cotter; he was of obſcure parentage in Kinſale, and by trade a brick-layer; but his uncommon ſize rendered him a mark for the avarice of a ſhewman, who, for the payment of 50 pounds per annum, obtained the liberty of exhibiting him three years in England. Not contented with his bargain, the chapman attempted to undertake the liberty of ſelling him to another ſpeculator, and poor Cotter, reſiſting this nefarious tranſaction, was ſaddled with a fictitious debt, and thrown into a ſponging houſe in Briſtol. In this ſituation he was, happily for him, obſerved by a gentleman of the city, who had ſome buſineſs to tranſact with the Sheriff's officer. His ſimple demeanor and extreme diſtreſs induced Mr. W. to make enquiries reſpecting him: and having reaſon to think that he was unjuſtly detained, he very generouſly became his bail, and ultimately ſo far inveſtigated the affair, that he not only obtained for him his liberty, but freed him from all kind of obligations to ſerve his taſk-maſter any longer. He was at this time 18, and retained to his laſt breath a moſt lively ſenſe of the obligation conferred upon him when a ſtranger, and in need; an obligation which he manifeſted alſo by very *honorable mention* in his will. It happened to be September when he was liberated, and by the further aſſiſtance of his benefactor, he was enabled to ſet up for himſelf, in the fair then held in St. James's. Succeſs crowning his undertaking, in three days, inſtead of being in penury, he ſaw himſelf poſſeſſed of 30 pounds, Engliſh money! Let thoſe who know the peaſantry of Ireland, judge of his riches! He now commenced, and continued, a regular exhibition of his perſon, until the laſt two years, when having realized an independence ſufficient to keep a carriage, and ſecure to him the conveniences of life, he declined what was exceedingly irkſome to his feelings. He was unoffending and amiable in his manners, to his friends and acquaintance, of whom he had latterly rather a large circle, as he was neither averſe to a cheerful glaſs or pleaſant company. He had naturally good ſenſe, and his mind was uncultivated. He departed without the leaſt apparent pain or agony. The leaden coffin, in which he is encloſed, meaſures nine feet, two inches, and the wooden caſe four inches more, his own ſtature having been full eight feet. Beyond all queſtion the talleſt man of the age. He has ſtill living a mother and a few diſtant relations, for whom he has made very ample proviſion. To prevent any attempt to diſturb his remains, of which he had the greateſt horror, a grave is ſunk to the depth of twelve feet in the ſolid rock, and ſuch precautions taken as would effectually render abortive either force or ſtratagem.

The character of a complete Voluptuary.

To form a complete voluptuary, a firm unprejudiced mind, and a ſound body, are requiſite, becauſe they make him fond of life. Enamoured with nature, he admires her various beauties, ſetting a proper value on each. His heart is never infected by the poiſon of diſguſt or loathing.

Superior to fortune and her capriciouſneſs, he is every thing to himſelf, nor knows any ambition but that of being happy. A true ſcholar of Epicurus, thunder cannot alarm, nor death affright him.

Although the trees loſe their verdure and their leaves, he ſtill preſerves his paſſion. When rivers are chained with ice, and the earth deep frozen, there is a ſummer warmth in his heart.

Is he with his *Delia?* Winds, rains, wintry ſtorms, warring elements, inſtead of marring, you heighten the joys of our modern *Tibullus*. If the ſurface of the ſea be calm and unruffled, he looks on it as an emblem of that peace, which ſhould ever ſubſiſt between them. But if outrageous hurricanes cauſe wild commotions there, and

"The yesty billows swallow navigation up."

The frightful tempeſt cannot diſturb him, while *Delia* continues kind.

He makes every object concur to his happineſs; the ſpring's gay livery delights him, its colour is ſo friendly and gentle to the eye. The riſing and ſetting ſun he views with admiration, and their varied decorations, inimitable by the painter's art, however excellent.

With leſs wonder, but more delight, he enjoys the moon's ſilver light, to grateful travellers a kind ſubſtitute for the bright orb that rules the day. He ſmiles to the ſtars that ſparkle ſo brilliant from the azure vault.

If his days be happy, happier ſtill are thoſe bliſsful nights, which have ſo many peculiar advantages. They inſpire pleaſing reveries, and invite to walk by the twilight in the grove. Is *Delia* there? He aſks no more, ſhe is the univerſe to him.

For the Evening Fire-side.

SENSIBILITY.

The mind that's satisfi'd with meaner joys,
May nature's each ennobling gift despise;
While they whose breasts with finer feelings burn,
Will ever from each grov'ling impulse turn.
Not wealth nor fame can e'er one good bestow,
When mild affection's streams forget to flow!
Nor can that breast serenity obtain,
Where the wild passions unrestrained reign.
In vain, around hope's glitt'ring visions rise,
And length of life each fav'rite wish supplies;
Unless by purity the mind's inspir'd,

These cannot yield the happiness desir'd.
The soften'd heart it is—the soul refin'd—
The chasten'd sense—the well-instructed mind,
Superior happiness can only find.
Behold the man to ruder joys inclin'd,
Fled every tender thought—each mild desire;
Nought but the meaner pleasures him inspire.
Oh! that those joys forever may prevail,
That wake at plaintive misery's sad tale;
That sympathy's blest feeling can impart—
Soften and humanize the rugged heart.

For the Evening Fire-side.

TO JUSTITIA.

I from "the fields of prose" must now retire,
(Where late I *fought* with slander and abuse):
Well pleased to wake the warblings of the lyre,
To greet with fair JUSTITIA and the muse.

Maid of th' heroic muse, whom justice sways,
Who lovest to give the meed to merit due;
Here for the compliment received from you,
Accept the grateful tribute of my lays.

For some there are, can give much good advice,
And are in *precept*, monstrous foes to vice;
Yet in *example*, fly from what they teach—
But fair JUSTITIA, just to my deserts
From me this despicable charge averts,
And kindly says, "*I practice what I preach.*"

But O, what blunders frequently we make,
When we decide on objects in the dark,
Call me *a Bachelor!!*—Oh sad mistake!
Indeed my duck, you've widely miss'd the mark.

No! by the down just sprouting on my chin,
And graceful whiskers curling round my ears;
Believe me, I've just past my *dernier teen*,
And hail'd the envied age of *twenty* years.

Just at the age, when youngsters first begin
To think on marriage as a serious subject;
And feel disposed more lastingly to pin
Their young affections to some worthy object.

I think I can declare, sans ostentation,
That I possess a "philanthropic mind;"
A love for all the rational creation,
Prone to this end—"To harmonize mankind."

I have "*a heart to pity*" the distress
Of nymphs who feel love's ill-requited pain,
I've *yet* a "*hand*," that's emulous "*to bless*."
Some worthy blooming maid at Hymen's fane.

Come then JUSTITIA, to that fane repair;
My *heart and hand* wait your acceptance there.

ROMEO.

Selected for the Evening Fire-side.

FASHIONS.

The origin of many, probably of most fashions, was in the endeavour to conceal some deformity of the inventor. Thus Charles the Seventh, of France, introduced long coats, to hide his ill-made legs.—Shoes, with very long points, full two feet in length, were invented by Henry Plantagenet, Duke of Anjou, to conceal a very large excrescence which he had upon one of his feet.

Sometimes, Fashions, are quite reversed in one age from those of another. Thus, bags, when first in fashion in France, were only wore *en dishabille*. In visits of ceremony, the hair was tied in a ribband, and floated over the shoulders—all which is exactly contrary to our present fashion.—Queen Isabella, of Bavaria, as remarkable for her gallantry as the fairness of her complexion, introduced a fashion of leaving the shoulders and part of the neck uncovered.

In England, about the reign of Henry, the Fourth, they wore long-pointed shoes, to such an immoderate length, that they could not walk till they were fastened to their knees with chains. Luxury improving on this ridiculous mode, it was the custom of an English Beau of the fourteenth century to have these chains of gold or silver. A very accurate account of one of this description may be found in Henry's History of Great Britain, in his chapter on manners, &c. The ladies of that period were not less fantastical in their dress; and it must be confessed, that the most cynical satyrist can have no reason, on a comparison with those times, to censure our present modes.

To this article, as it may probably arrest the volatile eye of our fair reader, we add what may serve as a hint for the heightening of her charms. Tacitus remarks of *Poppea*, the queen of Nero, that she concealed a part of her face: "To the end," he adds, "that the imagination having fuller play by irritating curiosity, they might think higher of her beauty than if the whole of her face had been exposed."

[*Curios. of Lit.*]

For the Evening Fire-side.

DESPAIR.

Despair! thy phrensi'd pow'r, the mind
Can rule with unresisted sway,
The palsi'd sense in ice can bind,
Where'er thou dost thy form display.

Oft' list'ning to the hollow sigh,
Of her whose infants watch and weep;
While round her side with ceaseless cry,
The meagre dogs of Famine creep:

Or, cast upon some trackless shore,
Where desolation leads her train,
'Gainst which the stormy billows roar;
Thou turn'st thy leaden eyes in vain.

Across th' immeasurable deep,
And 'mid the hoarsely murm'ring spray,
Hear'st still the tempest's fury sweep,
And the sad sea-shriek die away.

In musty vaults but dimly seen,
Oft' by the flutt'ring taper's ray,
Thou lov'st to mark the solemn scene,
Where cloister'd souls unanswer'd pray.

Thou lov'st in gloomy cell to hide,
With pale regret, remorse and shame;
And weeping love and by his side,
Foul pride and lust's unsated flame.

But, fiercest of thy furious train,
Lo! foil'd Ambition's staring eye—
And kindred vice of coward soul,
That dreads the blow she cannot fly.

There sits thy fear-inspiring form,
Thy glaring eye-balls swoll'n with hate,
Pointing the slowly-gathering storm,
Big with the vengeful threats of fate.

Around thee at thy potent call,
Unnumber'd hideous phantoms throng,
And chiefly he the giant pow'r,
From sin and murder who first sprung.

Fell Suicide! that when the rays,
Of hope no more illume the mind;
His ghastly, baleful smile displays,
And wrapt in gloom stalks slow behind.

W.

An account of a singular custom common in many parts of Hindostan.

At the pagoda of Rajapethah, near Madrass, was yesterday (Sunday, July 6th, 1798,) performed, in honour of Chadiyatta, a curious Hindoo ceremony; an upright post, about forty feet high, was pitched in the ground, on which a cross pole of upwards of twice that length turned by a pivot; long ropes were faltened to each end of this pole, and at one of them a kind of canopy, adorned with festoons and bunches of flowers: where this canopied end came to the ground, a small scaffold of eight or nine feet was raised; besides the circular motion on the pivot, the cross pole had a perpendicular one; so that each end might be elevated at pleasure by means of the affixed ropes.

Around this apparatus stood innumerable crowds of Indians of all descriptions, in anxious expectation of the hero who was to signalize himself in honour of the Goddess. In the mean time, the Tari, the Nagalam, the Dammay, the Tom-tom, and all the et-cetera of Braminee music, kept up a continual clangor. At every four or five minutes too, a volley of the noisy kind of fire-works was discharged; and the family of the man about to be suspended,

highly bedaubed with Turmarique, and loaded with flowers, were led in proceſſion round the machine, in the midſt of the reiterated cries of the multitude. On one ſide was exalted the throne of the Goddeſs; on which ſhe ſat, nearly hidden by flowers, and ſurrounded by officiating Bramins.

At laſt the devotee appeared. The tumult of the inſtruments, the fire-works, and the ſpectators, redoubled. In the fleſhy part of the back, near the bone, and about four inches from the ſhoulders, were inſixed two apparently ſilver hooks; ſuch, in form and ſize, as are on large ſteel-yards: to them were faſtened thick yellow ſtrings. For fixing theſe in the back, wounds muſt have been made at leaſt an inch long, and four in number; for their points came quite through. He aſcended the ſcaffold; a ſmall Tom-tom was put into his hand; the hook-ſtrings were tied round the end of the pole, under the canopy; and his great toes placed in a kind of ſlings, at a convenient diſtance; ſo that he lay in the air as a man ſwimming on the water.—When he mounted the ſcaffold, he ſeemed to tremble; and when raiſed into the air, as he immediately was on every thing being adjuſted under the canopy, he for ſome time kept faſt hold on the long rope proceeding from the end of the pole.* But this he ſoon quitted, and amuſed himſelf in beating his Tom-tom, and ſcattering the flowers which covered him among the people below. At firſt my blood ran cold, and I could not ſee without horror and indignation the mangled fleſh and haggard looks of this victim of ſuperſtition: but when he was arrived at the utmoſt height of his aerial elevation, and had quitted the rope, he ſeemed ſo much at his eaſe, that I could not forbear joining in the general acclamation, and in ſome degree enjoying the ſport. He might be raiſed, perhaps, fifty or ſixty feet from the ground.

The bunches and feſtoons he caſt down cauſed a general ſcramble among the crowd; each member of which ſeemed ardently deſirous to acquire ſome portion, however trifling, of this ſacred relic. All this while, the pole was impelled round the pivot it moved on, by a number of people at the depreſſed end of it. At laſt, after having been in the air ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, he withdrew his toes entirely out of the ſlings, and hung ſuſpended *only* by the fleſh and muſcles of his back. This continued about five minutes more; at the end of which time he tore down and diſtributed the remainder of his flowers, when he was let down amidſt the again repeated triumphant applauſe of the whole aſſembly, the firing of rockets, &c. and the noiſe of the muſic: ſo that the whole of his ſuſpenſion was finiſhed in fifteen or twenty minutes. It is worthy of remark, that each time he came, during his airy rounds, to the quarter where the throne of the Goddeſs was placed, he reverentially joined his hands and touched his forehead, and ceaſed, till he was paſſed, pulling the flowers. Unluckily, notwithſtanding all my endeavours, I could not procure any of theſe; but could, however, diſtinguiſh, that they were of three or four different ſpecies; among which, the Mallagi, a ſmall white flower predominated. This latter is uſed in all the Braminee ceremonies, worn by the dancing girls, diſtributed at weddings, and held in general eſteem on account of its ſuppoſed ſanctity.

This ſtrange ceremony is performed annually (though not in all places at the ſame ſeaſon by a ſect of Hindoos called the Pully caſt, and is called Chadil.

[*Europ. Mag.*]

AEROSTATION.

The ninth aërial aſcenſion announced by M. Moſment took place laſt Monday (the 7th April 1806) in the city of Liſle, in preſence of an immenſe crowd of ſpectators. From day-break the aëronaut was buſily employed in the production of hydrogen gas; the ſky was ſerene, and at mid-day the operation of filling the balloon was completed, and every thing ready. M. Moſment leapt into the car; and upon a ſignal being given, the balloon was ſet at liberty, and aſcended very rapidly into the air, amidſt the ſhouts of the ſpectators. M. Moſment repeatedly waved his flag as he aſcended, which was adorned with the Imperial eagle. The wind was northerly, and the balloon was carried gently before it.—At a certain height the aëronaut let go a parachute, to which an animal was attached, and the experiment ſucceeded admirably. In the mean time the balloon continued to aſcend, and appeared as if exactly above the town. At one o'clock it ſeemed to have encountered ſome adverſe minds.—Something red was then ſeen ſlowly deſcending, which was picked up, and found to be the flag which the aëronaut carried up with him. This however excited no diſagreeable emotions, and all eyes were turned to the balloon, which ſoon aſcended to ſuch a height as to become inviſible. The crowd then began to diſperſe, perfectly ſatisfied with the ſucceſs of the experiment; but a rumour ran through the populace, that the dead body of a man had been found dreadfully mangled in one of the foſſes of the town. This excited ſome enquiry; and upon inſpecting the body, it was found to be that of the unfortunate aëronaut, but ſo covered with blood that it was with difficulty he could be recogniſed. The balloon came to the ground on the ſame day of the accident, twenty-five leagues diſtant from Liſle, the place of its aſcenſion. An unloaded piſtol, a little bread, and a piece of fleſh, were found in the car of the balloon.

The unfortunate death of M. Moſment has produced the following obſervations from Garnerin, the aëronaut: "It ſeems that the misfortune which happened to M. Moſment did not reſult from any of the inconveniences which are connected with aëroſtatic aſcenſions, but merely from want of prudence. The car in which he aſcended was too ſhallow; the cords by which it was attached to the balloon were too far apart; and it is probable, when M. Moſment was leaning over to let an animal drop in a parachute, that he loſt his balance, and was precipitated to the earth. If the accidents which have happened from balloons, are inveſtigated, it will be ſeen that they have in general proceeded from the imprudence of the aëronauts themſelves. Every one foreſaw, when the Montgolfiere was attached to a balloon filled with inflammable gas, the danger to which Pilatre de Roſier was expoſed. Beſides thoſe balloons were gilt, which might attract the electricity of the clouds. Balloons, gilt or ſilvered over, are very dangerous. Zambeccari, who employed thoſe means, ſuſtained ſeveral accidents, and it is only ſurpriſing that he eſcaped at laſt."

[*Philoſ. Mag.*]

POPE SIXTUS THE FIFTH.

A ſingular revolution of fortune happened to this Pope. He was originally a ſwine-herd. When he firſt came to Rome, he was conſtrained to beg alms. Having collected a little ſilver, he one day ſtood deliberating with himſelf, whether he ſhould employ it in the purchaſe of a loaf, which the keenneſs of his appetite reminded him would prove a very agreeable acquiſition; or, in a pair of ſhoes, which his ten toes terribly complained of wanting. In this ſtate of irreſolution, his face betrayed the anxiety of his mind. A tradeſman, who had for ſome time obſerved his embarraſſment, aſked him the occaſion

of it. He told him frankly the cauſe; but he did it in ſo facetious a manner, that the tradeſman reſolved to finiſh his perplexity by inviting him to a good dinner. When Sixtus became Pope, he did not forget to return the dinner to the benevolent tradeſman.

To give an inſtance of his abilities as a Politician. When he firſt aſpired in his mind to the Popedom, while he was yet a Cardinal, he counterfeited illneſs and old age for ſeveral *years*. During the conclave, which was aſſembled to create a Pope, he continually leaned on his crutch; and very frequently interrupted the ſage deliberations of the Conclave by a hollow cough and violent ſpitting, this ſcheme took ſo well, that the Cardinals fell into the trap; and every one thinking that, by electing Sixtus, he might himſelf ſtand a chance of being in a ſhort time elected, he was choſen unanimouſly. Soon after the election was concluded, the new Pope performed a *miracle:* his legs became vigorous; his body, that had been before curbed, became firm and erect; his cough was diſſipated; and he ſhewed, in a ſhort time, of what he was capable.

Legiſlature of Pennſylvania.

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Repreſentatives,

The favour of Divine Providence continues to manifeſt itſelf towards our country; producing an unprecedented ſtate of public and private proſperity. The rapid extenſion of ſentlements throughout Pennſylvania; the conſtant improvement in her city, towns and villages; the facility with which labour acquires independence; and the ſecurity which every good man enjoys for his perſon, his religion, and his property, may, alſo, be juſtly reſpected as proofs of the innate virtue of the people, and of the practical excellence of a Republican Government. To this general view of the ſituation of the Commonwealth, the experience of the preſent year adds peculiar topics for congratulation and gratitude.—At no former period has the bleſſings of health been more generally diffuſed; no former ſeaſon has furniſhed a greater abundance of the various fruits of the earth; and the reviving harmony of ſocial life ſeems to give to the preſent ſeſſion of the Legiſlature aninfluence, and a hope, the moſt auſpicious and the moſt precious.

The enlightened and patriotic conduct of the Federal Adminiſtration affords an ample aſſurance, that the peace, the honour, and the independence of the Union, will be guarded alike againſt foreign outrage and domeſtic tumult. But, gentlemen, the Legiſlative truſt of the individual States is an eſſential as well as a conſtitutional auxiliary to the authority of the Federal Government: For it is your immediate province to improve every local advantage, and to ſupply every local want; to elevate the morals, and to reform the manners of the community; to eſtabliſh the dominion of the laws over the paſſions or the vices of individuals; to mature the deeds of national opulence by the cultivation of uſeful arts and ſciences; and to lay the foundation of national ſtrength in a brave and diſciplined Militia. A truſt ſo important, will, I am confident, awaken all your vigilance and engage all your wiſdom. And I renew, with deference, but with ſincerity, the offer of a cordial co-operation in every meaſure calculated to advance the political or the ſocial happineſs of our conſtituents.

The records of the General Aſſembly will bring to your view moſt of the objects that have hitherto been deemed material to complete the ſyſtem of our Laws, upon the principles of the Conſtitution. In the Judicial Department I pray you particularly to conſider the incompetency of the number of the Judges of the Supreme Court, to the performance of the duties annually required in the forty-two counties of the ſtate. The abolition of the High Court of Errors and Appeals, renders, indeed, an augmentation of the number indiſpenſible, in order to ſecure a ſatisfactory reviſionary power; without which (contrary to the ſoundeſt maxims of juriſprudence) the errors of the firſt judgment, pronounced by a ſingle tribunal, will exiſt without remedy or controul. Every attempt to inſure an impartial trial by jury, in civil as well as in criminal caſes, merits approbation; but permit me to ſuggeſt, that the chance of the wheel (which operates advantageouſly in that reſpect) muſt frequently produce a Pannel of Jurors, whoſe previous education and purſuits may not have qualified them to inveſtigate and decide the complicated queſtions that ariſe, eſpecially in a great commercial city. If, therefore, with the means for inſuring impartiality, you can combine the means to inſure a competency of knowledge, as well as of integrity, for the various duties to be performed, your ſyſtem will be at once efficient and meritorious.

In connexion with the adminiſtration of juſtice, you will, naturally, be led to examine the ſtate and operation of our criminal code; and although I am not aware of any radical defect either in the theory or the practice, it is time perhaps to inquire, and to aſcertain, whether puniſhments have been duly apportioned to crimes; and whether even the neceſſity to puniſh may not be relieved, in a ſalutary degree, by employing additional inſtruments of precaution and prevention. An encreaſe of petty offences in the city and county of Philadelphia may be aſcribed to the encreaſe of a particular deſcription of the population; compriſing not only the idle and the diſſolute of our ſtate, but the fugitive and depraved of other ſtates. The inconvenience and the danger require an early and certain corrective; but, in its application, care will be taken, I am perſuaded, to maintain the public police, without violating the rights of humanity.

May I not here be allowed, without incurring the imputation of a perſonal motive, to remind the Legiſlative Guardians of the reputation, as well as the lives and fortunes of our fellow-citizens, that libelling (groſs and malignant libelling) has become the crying ſin of the nation and the times! It is not the licentiouſneſs of a ſingle preſs, nor the machinations of a particular party, to which, in the faithful execution of my office, the legiſlative attention is thus directed. The crime is to me the ſame, whoever may be the criminal, and whoever may be the victim. But it is the general proſtitution of the liberty of the preſs; the overwhelming torrent of political diſſention; the indiſcriminate demolition of public characters; and the barbarous inroads upon the peace and happineſs of private individuals; which conſtitute, in my mind, a ſubject of the higheſt concern to yourſelves, and to your poſterity. The fatal conſequences of this public malady begin already to appear. The preſs has loſt its uſes as an inſtructor and a cenſor. Citizens of the ſame community are pledged to mutual hatred and perſecution. All reſpect for the magiſtracy and the laws is falling into deriſion. Good and wiſe men will ſoon abandon the field of public ſervice. And with a fatality not uncommon in the hiſtory of nations, the avowed friends of a free repreſentative government are arming its real enemies with weapons for deſtruction.

The evil, gentlemen, is obvious and afflicting; but where ſhall we ſeek the anti-

dote and the cure? The moſt zealous advocates of a free preſs have always thought, that to preſerve its liberty, its licentiouſneſs muſt be reſtrained. The law provides perhaps ſufficiently for the puniſhment of a convicted libeller; but the inadequacy of that ſpecies of reparation to the feelings and fame of the injured individual, and even the opportunities to eſcape conviction, are points on which the law is ſtill ſuſceptible of great and conſtitutional amendment. I would, therefore, venture to ſuggeſt, that every printer who aſſails the character of a citizen ſhould be compelled, if required, to publiſh the defence; that every printer and editor of a newſpaper, or other periodical work, ſhould regiſter his name in ſome public office of the proper county, to be evidence of the fact of publication, upon trials at law; and that whenever a grand jury ſhall preſent a preſs, as a public nuiſance, the printer and the editor ſhould be bound in a recognizance, with ſureties, for their future good behaviour, and the court authorized to ſuppreſs it for a limited time. But after all, it cannot be denied, that the only effectual remedy muſt be ſupplied by the good ſenſe and virtue of the community; ſince the crime of libelling, like the crime of duelling, will forever depend for its indulgence and its impunity upon public taſte and public opinion. Your predeceſſors, indeed, lately enacted a law for the more effectual prevention and puniſhment of duels. But reflecting, that duels are among the natural and uſual effects of libels, you, gentlemen, will, I am confident, be ſolicitous to diſcredit and ſuppreſs the cauſe of ſuch complicated miſchief, by the influence of your example and advice, as well as by the exercile of your legiſlative authority.

In contemplating theſe objects of public improvement, which require the aid and ſanction of the government, the general condition of our roads, eſpecially on Laurel Hill, and on the north weſt ſide of the river Ohio, our waters and canals will merit particular favour and attention. A patriotic and laudable ſpirit of enterprize has led, in this direction, to the diſburſement of a great maſs of private wealth; but it is reaſonable, as well as politic, that a competent contribution ſhould be made, by the ample reſources of the commonwealth, to avert from ſeveral important undertakings the danger of failure and diſappointment. The projected canals between the bays of Delaware and Cheſapeake, and at the rapids of the river Ohio, claim pre-eminently the pecuniary ſuccour of Pennſylvania, Kentucky, Maryland and Delaware; and they are indeed national objects, which would well deſerve the patronage of the Union.

The number, diſcipline and equipment of the militia are ſuch as do honour to the freemen who compoſe it, and to the government by which it was organized and directed. An addition of 20,000 ſtand of muſkets and 25 braſs field pieces has been recently made to the arms and ordinance of the ſtate; but a further appropriation will be neceſſary to furniſh cartouch boxes, and other accoutrements. Permit me, alſo, to remind you, that the accumulation of arms, ordnance and military ſtores, renders it expedient to provide more effectually for their ſecurity and preſervation.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Repreſentatives,

The official reports of the Comptroller and Regiſter will exhibit a comprehenſive view of our finances; in the reſult of which, you will perceive that the ordinary revenue of the ſtate is ſufficient to defray the ordinary expences. But it has been a favourite object in my communications to your predeceſſors, to prevail upon them to raiſe, by a moderate tax, a ſpecific fund for the expences of government, leaving the annual income of our ſtock for the advancement of works of public utility and the endowment of ſeminaries of education. A renewal of the ſuggeſtion will not be diſagreeable to a General Aſſembly, in whoſe attachment to the principles of republicaniſm, in whoſe exertions for the diffuſion of knowledge, I repoſe an implicit confidence, and at a time when the general proſperity ſeems to invite it.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and
Gentlemen of the Houſe of Repreſentatives,

We meet for the performance of an arduous and important duty. The purity of your motives, and the rectitude of your conduct will, I am perſuaded, juſtify the confidence that is repoſed in you. As to myſelf, I have ever felt the beſt diſpoſitions of heart and of head, to repay the obligations which I owe to my country, for its kindneſs during a long and active life. It cannot however be preſumed, that I have not erred in judgment on former occaſions; nor do the infirmities of age diminiſh the probability of future errors. Let me therefore beſpeak a candid interpretation of my words and my actions; and, if a difference of opinion ſhould ariſe between us, upon public affairs, let both lament it as a misfortune; but let neither impute it as a crime.

THOMAS M'KEAN.

Lancaſter, Dec. 4, 1805.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE.

FOREIGN.

By the arrival at New-York on the 9th inſtant of the ſhip Eugenia, capt. Boden, in the ſhort paſſage of 37 days from Amſterdam, and by other late arrivals from the continent of Europe and from England, much important intelligence has been received; the following ſummary contains the moſt prominent articles.

From England. On the 28th of September, intelligence of an accommodation between England and Pruſſia, was officially announced in the London Gazette; in conſequence of which, the blockade of the Pruſſian ports and rivers in the German Ocean, was ordered to be diſcontinued.

A Meſſage was received by the Lord Mayor of London, from the Admiralty office, under date of the 3d October, informing, that an officer had juſt arrived from Sir Samuel Hood, with an account of his having fallen in with five French frigates, four of which have been captured by the ſquadron under his command; they were part of a fleet of ſeven ſail of Frigates and Corvettes, all nearly new and full of troops, which ſailed from Rochefort on the 23d of September, bound (as was ſuppoſed) to Buenos Ayres, but was deſcried the next day by the Britiſh blockading ſquadron, under the command of Sir Samuel Hood, who immediately gave chaſe and had a run of near 100 miles before he came up with them: they fought with great obſtinacy, and ſuſtained a very ſevere loſs, as there were nearly 2500 troops on board thoſe that were captured. The loſs of the Engliſh is ſtated at 9 killed and 32 wounded. Admiral Hood loſt an arm in the engagement. The ſame meſſage alſo ſtates, that accounts were received from Sir T. Louis, of his having taken the French frigate Preſident, one of the ſquadron which did ſo much damage to the Britiſh commerce on the coaſt of Africa: ſhe was on her return home, and very rich in gold-duſt, ivory and elephant's teeth, her ſhare of plunder from the Britiſh ſhips the ſquadron captured on the coaſt of Africa. The French frigate had a few wounded; the Britiſh had none either killed or wounded: the captured frigates have all arrived in England.

On the 8th, a Meſſage was received by the Lord Mayor, from the ſame ſource, announcing the rupture of the negociation between France and England; in conſequence of which, new orders and inſtructions had been iſſued to the different naval commanders for the vigorous proſecution of the war:—

this meſſage was ſent immediately to Loyd's, and was received with repeated huzzas; and wherever the intelligence was ſpread, it was received with the greateſt demonſtrations of joy.

The Star of the 11th, mentions that armaments are fitting out, which, on the moment of Lord Lauderdale's expected recall from Paris, are to be deſpatched againſt the poſſeſſions of the enemies of Britain, in Italy, in Africa and in America; to deprive them of the commercial reſources which have hitherto been left them.

On the 12th, by way of experiment, an attack was made on Boulogne and its flotilla. Twenty-four boats with ammunition, &c. were ſent in, and the town ſuffered conſiderably, ſeveral houſes having been ſet on fire. Same day, the Clyde frigate arrived at Deal, with Lord Lauderdale and ſuite from France, after a rupture of the negociations. He reached London on the 13th, in bad health, and entered the city amidſt the huzzas of the populace.

The papers received from the continent of Europe, down to the 9th of October, are principally occupied with the movements of thoſe mighty maſſes of men, who were embodying for the purpoſe of re-kindling the flames of war. Concerning the movements of Pruſſia, little doubt exiſted of a ſpeedy commencement of hoſtilities. In a declaration, ſhe is ſaid to have inſiſted that the French government ſhould withdraw its troops from Germany; and that it ſhould accede to meaſures for reſtoring a continental Peace. The Pruſſian army conſiſted of 250,000 men, (excluſive of a powerful militia.) The grand Army was computed at 70,000 infantry, and 16,000 cavalry, commanded by Marſhal Mollendorf, and his Majeſty in perſon. The French troops had advanced within one day's march of the Pruſſians, and the Emperor Napoleon had joined his army. The French were animated with the confidence of victory, while the enthuſiaſm that pervaded their opponents exceeded the powers of deſcription,—the Pruſſian troops to a man burned with the moſt eager deſire for action. Nor was the flame confined to the troops—it had ſpread to the provinces, and extended to every part of the kingdom. Several of the principal cities had demanded permiſſion to raiſe regiments at their own expenſe. Of the Ruſſians there was no certain account; they were advancing to the aſſiſtance of Pruſſia in great force, but appeared to be at a conſiderable diſtance. A more ſanguinary conflict was expected ſhortly to take place than the world had often witneſſed.

Later accounts from the ſame quarter ſtate that hoſtilities commenced on the 9th October; the King of Pruſſia commenced his operations by advancing his right wing for Frankfort on the Maine, his centre for Wurtzburg, and his left for Bamberg. All the diviſions of his army were prepared for the execution of this plan; but the French army, turning his left wing, was in a few days poſted at Lobenſtein, Schleitz, Gera and Naumberg. The Pruſſian army, being turned, fixed on the days of the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th, to concentrate her diviſions; and on the 13th, the whole army preſented itſelf in order of battle, between Cappledorf and Anerſtadt, to the amount of nearly 150,000 men. On the 13th, at two o'clock, P. M. the Emperor Buonaparte arrived at Jena, and from a ſmall hill, occupied by the advanced poſts of the French army, viewed the poſitions of the Pruſſians, who ſeemed to manouvre for the purpoſe of forcing, the next day, the narrow paſſages of the Saal. They were attacked by the French troops on the road leading to Jena and made a moſt obſtinate reſiſtance. General Davouſt was ordered to turn them in flank, while the Prince Ponte Corvo was diſpatched to attack them in the rear. The whole force of Marſhal Lannes was collected on the above hill in order of battle. The troops of Generals Ney and Soult marched the whole night. A thick fog obſcured the following day; and the Emperor guarded his infantry againſt the formidable attacks of the Pruſſian cavalry. The rifle-men commenced the action, and the fire of muſketry was briſk. Good as the poſition of the Pruſſians was, they were diſlodged from it—and the French army formed in order of battle in the vallies. The Pruſſians only waited for the fog to diſperſe to commence a general action. A diviſion of 50,000 men intended to take the defiles of Koeſen, to cover Naumberg, but was prevented by Marſhal Davouſt. The two other diviſions, 80,000 men in number together, drew up in order of battle in front of the French line. The fog covered both armies for the ſpace of two hours; but when it cleared up, they had a view of each other at the diſtance of cannon ſhot. The Pruſſian army was numerous and exhibited a handſome body of cavalry: its manœuvres were executed with exactneſs and ſwiftneſs. Having made an advance on the left wing of the French, Marſhal Angereau, was charged to throw him back again; and in leſs than an hour the attack became general.——From 250,000, to 300,000 men, with 700 or 800 pieces of cannon, ſpread death every where before them, and exhibited a very awful ſpectacle. The French emperor always kept a ſtrong body of reſerve with him, beſides his Imperial guard.——At this intereſting criſis, a diviſion of French cavalry arrived alſo, and formed a line of battle in reſerve, in conjunction with the above. The whole body now advanced, and together with the main army, ſoon threw the Pruſſians into confuſion; they took poſt again—but were completely routed, by a freſh attack from the Duke of Berg, with his heavy horſe and dragoons. The reſult of the battle was the taking of 30 or 40,000 priſoners, 25 or 30 ſtand of colours and 150 pieces of cannon, by the French; beſides magazines and ſtores. The Pruſſians is ſaid to have loſt 25 or 30,000 killed and wounded; General Mollendorf and Prince Henry of Pruſſia, are wounded. The Duke of Brunſwick and General Ruchel are killed. The loſs of the French is eſtimated at 1000 or 1100 killed and 3000 wounded. (We think the number here ſtated as the loſs of the French army in killed and wounded muſt be extremely incorrect, as from their numbers and the obſtinate reſiſtance they met with from their enemy, their loſs muſt have been far greater: later accounts will decide.)

The French army is reported to have advanced to Berlin the Pruſſian capital, a few days after the aforeſaid action took place.

While theſe great events are paſſing in the North of Germany, the ſouth of Italy continues to be the ſeat of a moſt ſanguinary warfare, the French troops appear to have met with the moſt determined reſiſtance; an article from Rome of the 30th September ſtates that Marſhal Maſſena has had ſeveral bloody battles lately, of which we have not yet received the particulars.

From Niſa, intelligence has been received, that on the 24th September, the Servians and the Turks had a moſt deſperate battle—the former were ultimately ſurrounded by 15,000 Turks; but were afterwards reinforced by 7000 men, and, completely defeated the Turks, leaving upwards of 4000 dead on the field of battle. They took 500 horſe, a number of mules, ammunition, ſeveral pieces of cannon, &c.

A revolution was effected in the Iſland of Hayti, on the 18th of October, in which the Emperor Deſſalines loſt his life; and General Chriſtophe was proclaimed Governor and Commander in chief over the Iſland; tranquility was reſtored.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E.'s poetical communication ſhall be attended to next week;—likewiſe

D.'s *Mathematical Queſtion.*

SEMI BACHELOR'S requeſt ſhall receive the attention due to its merit.

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